

Ellie's on-the-go Art Tote



"I made this for you!" Don't you just love that!? Even the scribbles your little one creates are tiny masterpieces that get hung up on the fridge and pinned to your wall at work. They are so proud when you make a fuss over even the little things. So why not turn their drawings into an art bag that will inspire them to keep creating! This adorable on-the-go art tote is easy to make, soft and your kids and grandkids will love their own personal drawing board that can go with them anywhere. You'll love that they stay busy!

Materials

- 6 printed drawings on EQ Printable Fabric Sheets
- Assorted pieces of fabric for trim
- 14" zipper
- 7" x 11" foam core board
- 8" x 5" paper pad with cardboard back
- Fusible fleece batting 12 1/2" x 26" (1/2 yard)

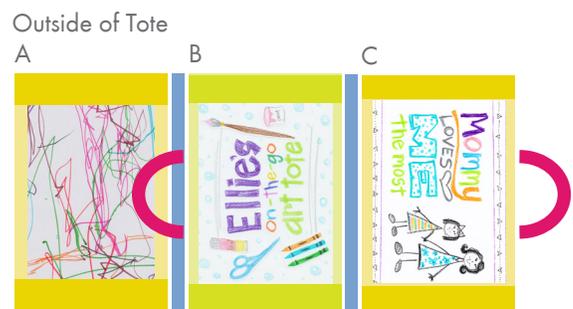
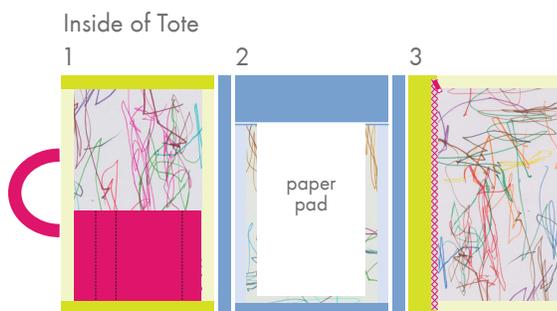
Preparation

Gather your children's drawings and scan them at 300 dpi. Save them to your computer in jpeg format. Import the photos to your EQ7 Image Worktable or in other photo editing software. Apply effects, filters, and symmetries as desired. Using EQ7 Photo Layout, arrange and print your newly created photos as you want them. Follow the instructions in your EQ Printable Fabric package to prepare your printed fabric for sewing.



Suggestion

• Tote is made from six 8" x 12" panels with 3/4" hinges. • 3 panels form the inside 1, 2, 3. • 3 panels form the outside A, B, C. To make a paper mock-up to help coordinate the trim colors front and back, cut two paper strips 8 1/2" x 4". Fold each in thirds. Label one 1-2-3. Label second A-B-C. Paste them together with labels facing out. Add notes about colors, pocket, zipper and drawing orientation to help keep it organized.



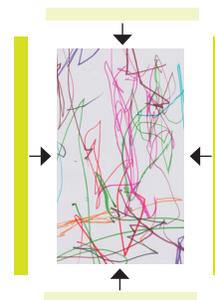
Creating the Inside Panels: 1, 2, and 3

Panel 1 has a pocket for pencils, crayons and scissors.

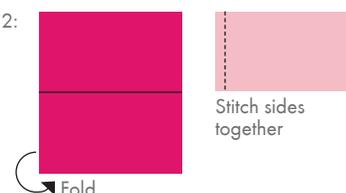
Step 1: Choose a drawing printed on fabric. Add borders to make it 8 1/2" x 12 1/2" (all measurements include seam allowance.)

Step 2: Make pocket: Cut 7 1/2" x 8 1/2" piece of fabric. Fold in half right sides together to 7 1/2" x 4 1/4". Stitch 1/4" seam on both ends. Turn right side out. Press. Position on section 1 with raw edge 1 1/2" from bottom and pocket hanging down. Stitch 1/4" seam across pocket edge. Flip pocket up into position. Stitch around 3 sides of the pocket. Make divisions by stitching 3 lines 1" apart at the left side and one line at 1" from the right side leaving a larger space in the middle for scissors.

Step 1:



Step 2:



Finished Panel 1



Stitch around pockets and to make pocket sections

Panel 2 has a slit for 8" x 5" paper pad.

Step 3: Choose a printed drawing. Add borders to sides and bottom to make it 8 1/2" x 12 1/2". Press under 2 1/4" at top to form inner lining of the pocket.

Step 4: Cut a 4 1/2" x 8 1/2" piece for top section. Press in half to 2 1/4" x 8 1/2".

Step 5: Now make the slit for the writing pad. Open out both folds. Place the fabrics right sides together, lining up the folds. Stitch 1 1/2" in from both outer edges on the fold line, leaving 5 1/2" in the center free. Refold pieces, one up, one down to expose the slit.

Panel 3 has a zipper pocket.

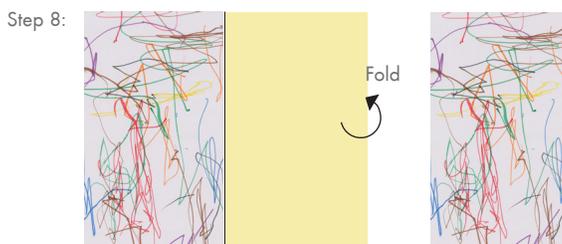
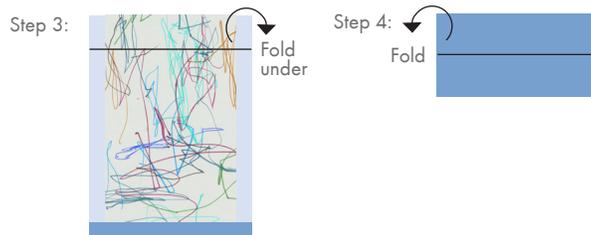
Step 6: Cut 8 1/2" x 12 1/2" piece for pocket lining.

Step 7: Cut a 3" x 12 1/2" strip for section above zipper. Fold in half wrong sides together to 1 1/2" x 12 1/2"

Step 8: Make a 14" x 12 1/2" piece using printed drawing plus added fabric for outside pocket bottom section. Fold in half wrong sides together to be 7" x 12 1/2".

Step 9: Attach zipper by top-stitching fold of each section to the edge of zipper tape. Place zipper so that pull is at top of tote. Much of the zipper will be exposed.

Step 10: Lay wrong side of zipper unit on top of right side of pocket lining. Zipper unit may need to be trimmed a bit. Baste around the outer edges of the two pieces, being careful over zipper teeth ends. Stitch over zipper teeth ends again and cut off extra zipper tape.



Creating the Outside Panels: A, B, and C

Panel A is the fold over flap

Step 11: Piece 8 1/2" x 12 1/2" unit using a drawing and fabric strips.

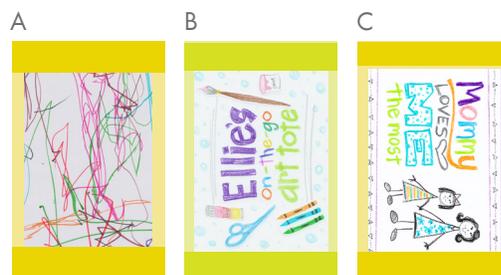
Panel B is center

Step 12: Piece printed drawing and border strips to make 8 1/2" x 12 1/2" unit. Drawing image orientation will have bottom to the right edge.

Panel C is back of tote

Step 13: Piece printed drawing and border strips to make 8 1/2" x 12 1/2" unit. Drawing image orientation will have bottom to left edge.

Steps 11, 12, and 13:



Handles

Step 14: Cut two 1 1/2" x 9" strips.

Step 15: Cut two batting strips 3/4" x 9".



Step 16: Lay batting strip on wrong side of handle $\frac{1}{4}$ " from one edge. Fold $\frac{1}{4}$ " of handle over batting. Fold other side of strip over batting tucking under raw edge.

Step 17: Top-stitch both long edges of handle. Make other handle.

Step 18: Baste ends of one handle to center of left edge of panel B, spacing ends 3" apart.

Step 19: Baste ends of other handle to center of right edge of panel C, spacing ends 3" apart to line up with the other handles.

Hinges: $\frac{3}{4}$ " Finished Size

Step 20: Cut 4 strips $1\frac{1}{4}$ " x $12\frac{1}{2}$ ", two for outside and two for inside.

Putting It All Together

Step 21: Lay out the outside pieces: A/hinge/B/hinge/C. Sew together. Keep handles out of the way.

Step 22: Fuse batting to back of A B C unit. Lay batting fusible side up on ironing board, place A, B, and C unit on top and iron.

Step 23: Lay out the inside pieces 1/hinge/2/hinge/3. Sew together.

Finish

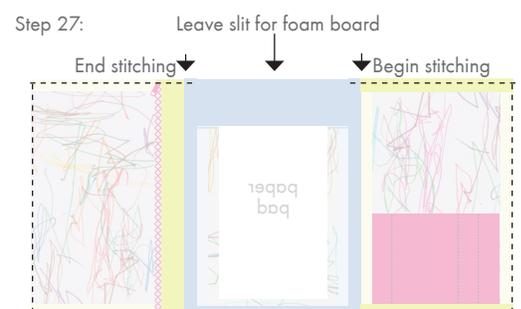
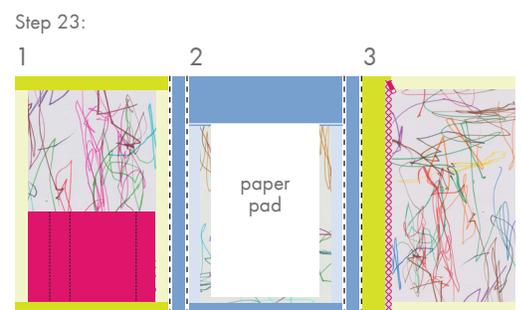
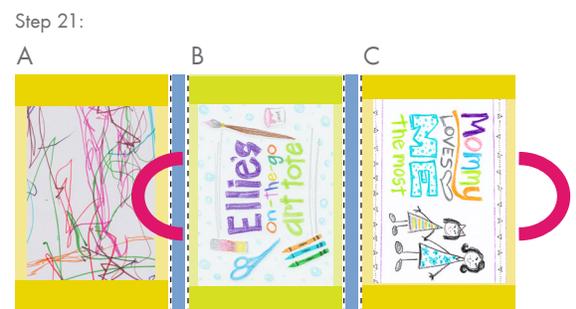
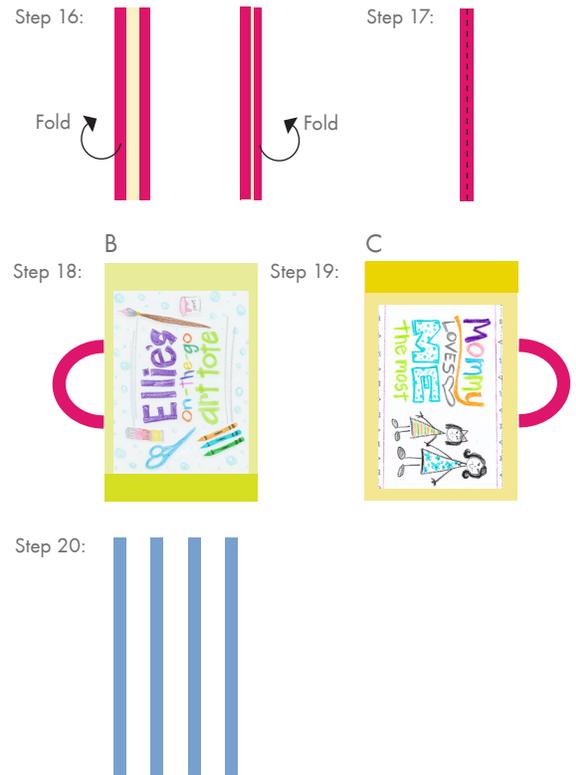
Step 24: Put A, B, and C right sides together with 1, 2, and 3. Keep handle inside.

Step 25: Stitch around outer edge with $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam, beginning at right top hinge section and ending at top left hinge section. Leave center B-2 space open to insert board.

Step 26: Turn right side out. Quilt both long edges of hinges through the layers, lining up the inside and outside hinge seams.

Step 27: Insert the foam core board into opening at top center. Fold in the open edges and top-stitch close to the edge all around tote.

And now you're done! Add pencils to the pocket, slip the backing of a paper pad into the center, add your children's favorite crayons or toys to the pocket, fold it up and GO! This handy little Art Tote is perfect for occupying kids in the car, at church, or on an airplane. And the best part is that the Art Tote is made from their own unique creations so they will LOVE showing it off.



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